

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1392

By Sparks

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Raeven Brooks upon her receipt of the Milken Educator Award.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those outstanding teachers who have devoted their careers to providing the highest-quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Raeven Brooks is one such estimable educator, who has distinguished herself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, a second-grade teacher at Black Fox Elementary School, Ms. Brooks was recently named a recipient of the prestigious Milken Educator Award, a most befitting honor that recognizes the positive influence she has on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, Milken Educator Awards is an initiative of the Milken Family Foundation begun in 1987 to recognize outstanding early-to-mid-career elementary and secondary school teachers, principals, and other education professionals across the country who have proven themselves models of excellence in the profession and offer strong long-range potential for professional and policy leadership; and

WHEREAS, Raeven Brooks received the Milken Educator Award during a surprise, school-wide ceremony in the Black Fox Elementary School gymnasium, where she was presented with \$25,000 to accompany the honor; Governor Bill Lee and Senior Vice President of the awards program Dr. Jane Foley were in attendance to sing her praises; and

WHEREAS, there are approximately thirty awards given annually across the country, and Ms. Brooks is one of only two Tennessee teachers to receive the Milken Award this year; she is the first person in the Murfreesboro City School system to garner the elite honor; and

WHEREAS, Raeven Brooks hails from a family of educators and is a noted leader in her building and district; in addition to representing Black Fox's second grade team in the district's Math Network, she was an original part of the STEAM leadership team at her school, co-leads and coordinates district-level data analysis for the school's Response to Instruction and Intervention-Behavior, and mentors new teachers in her school and district, as well as student teachers from Middle Tennessee State University; and

WHEREAS, a second-grade cluster teacher and hybrid teacher who works with children of all abilities, Raeven Brooks also runs an intervention math group for students who are behind grade level; she holds high expectations for all her students, engages them while focusing on reasoning and problem-solving skills, and uses data to drive her instruction, differentiating based on the needs of each student; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Brooks holds a bachelor's degree in early childhood education from Middle Tennessee State University; she is currently enrolled in the university's administration and supervision graduate program; and

WHEREAS, Raeven Brooks is an extremely talented and compassionate educator who works assiduously to motivate her students to reach their full potential, both as scholars and as citizens; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Brooks serves as an inspiration to her colleagues and students alike, and her friendship and counsel are highly valued by those who are fortunate to know her; and

WHEREAS, Raeven Brooks truly epitomizes the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate second-grade Black Fox Elementary

School teacher Raeven Brooks upon her receipt of the Milken Educator Award, commend her exceptional service to the children of Tennessee, salute her professional expertise and personal excellence, and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.